

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



September 22, 1998

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 98-75

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY PROBATION OFFICERS**REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL**

- ☒ [X] State Law Changes
- ☐ [] Federal Law or Regulation
Change
- ☐ [] Court Order or Settlement
Agreement
- ☐ [] Clarification Requested by
One or More Counties
- ☐ [] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: STATUS OF THE LEVEL OF CARE ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT**REFERENCE:** ALL-COUNTY LETTER 98-40

The purpose of this All County Letter is to inform you of the status of the level of care assessment instrument and process previously mandated by Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 11467. That statute required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to develop and implement a level of care assessment instrument and process for children entering specified out-of-home care settings. On November 4, 1997 the Superior Court issued an Order Granting Writ of Mandate, directing CDSS "to fully implement, by requiring all counties to use, the level of care instrument and process so developed." In compliance with the Order CDSS issued All County Letter 98-40 (copy attached).

Senate Bill 933 (Chapter 311, Statutes of 1998) has removed that mandate and replaced it with WIC Section 16501.2, which requires CDSS to issue current best practices guidelines for child and family assessment. Therefore, effective immediately California counties are not required to comply with the implementation process specified in All County Letter 98-40.

Additional information regarding best practice guidelines will be forthcoming. If you have any questions regarding those guidelines, please contact Kay Ryan, Chief, Child Welfare Services Bureau at (916) 445-2777. If you have any questions regarding the level of care assessment instrument and process, please contact Pat Aguiar, Chief, Foster Care Policy Bureau at (916) 445-0813.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By
Patric B. Ashby on September 22, 1998***PATRIC B. ASHBY, Chief
Foster Care Branch